

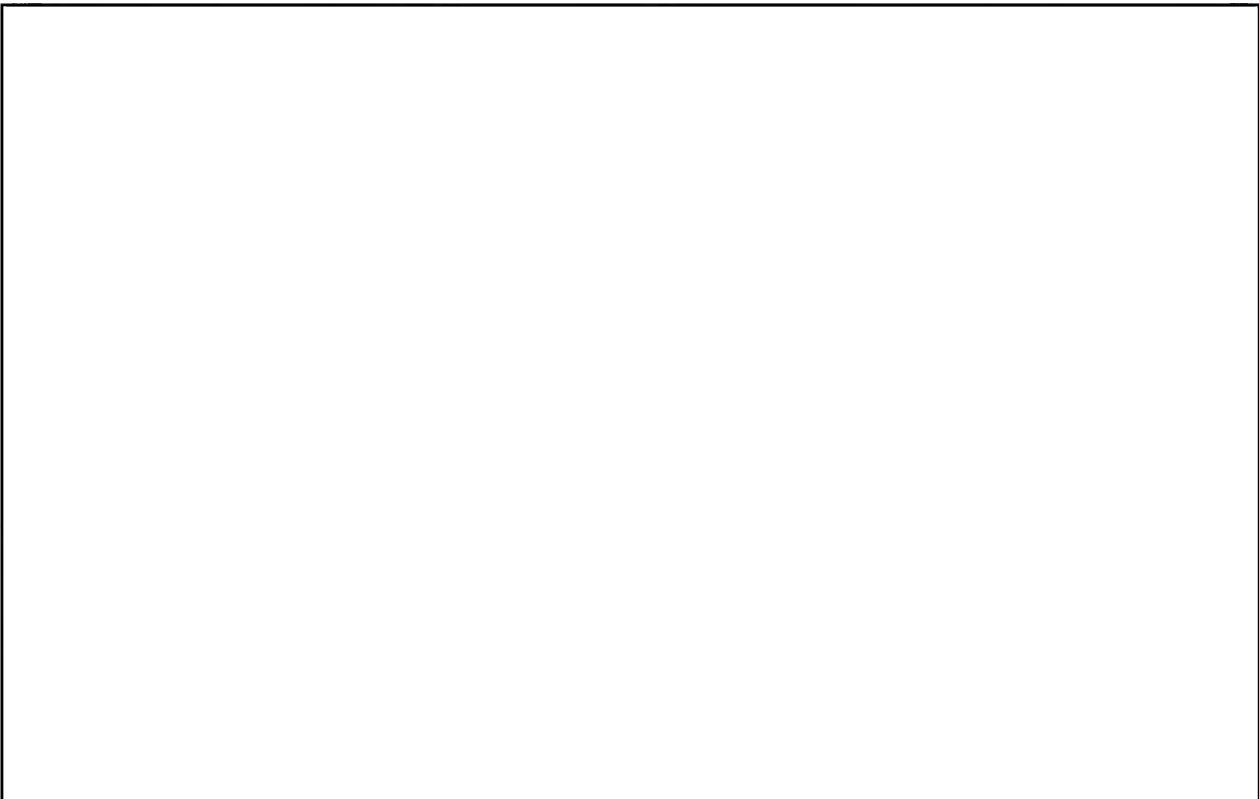
16 January 1956

NSC BRIEFING

FORMATION OF A SCANDINAVIAN FEDERATION

- I. The Soviets have, on their own initiative in the past six months, indicated to the Finns that they are willing to discuss the return of Karelia.

II.



25X1

- B. The formation of the neutral Scandinavian federation would be one method to entice Norway (and Denmark) to leave NATO.

III.



25X6

25X1

~~SECRET~~



- a. In 1949 the Swedes promoted a Scandinavian Defense Alliance of Sweden, Norway, and Denmark, to keep Norway and Denmark from joining NATO.
- IV. A Soviet proposal that both NATO and the Warsaw Pact powers recognize the neutrality and inviolability of Scandinavia would have a strong appeal to the Scandinavians.
 - A. Neutrality sentiment is still strong in ~~Sweden, Norway and Denmark.~~
 - B. Defense is regarded as an onerous economic burden.
 - C. It would increase Iceland's desire to oust the US from the NATO airbase at Keflavik so it could join such a federation.
- V. Nevertheless, there is little immediate prospects for the formation of a Scandinavian neutral bloc.

~~SECRET~~

- ~~SECRET~~
- A. The majority within the Norwegian government labors under no illusions regarding the USSR or the weakness of an isolated Scandinavian Defense Pact.
 - B. The Danes, having committed their course to NATO, are not disposed by nature to undertake such a radical reorientation.
 - 1. The Prime Minister is a vigorous defender of NATO.
 - C. The Swedes, while undoubtedly willing to explore any scheme to reduce the danger of a war engulfing Scandinavia, do not trust the Russians and fear that the burden for preserving "armed neutrality" in the North would fall upon them, a task which they cannot assume individually.

BRIEFING

~~SECRET~~ 17 JANUARY 1956

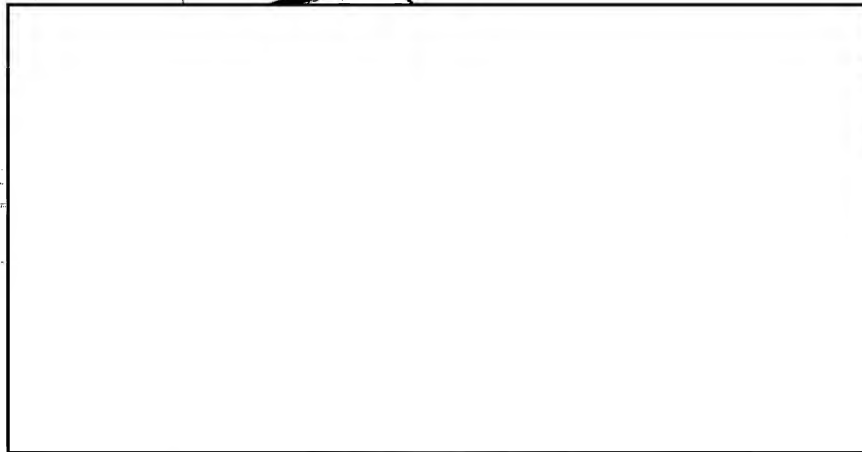
SOVIET PUSH FOR "SCANDINAVIAN FEDERATION"

1. In past six months--on their own initiative
--have reportedly indicated to the Finns
they are willing to discuss return of
Karelia.

25X1

2. Other evidence--including Soviet
propaganda--supports USSR interest
in formation of "neutral" Nordic
union.

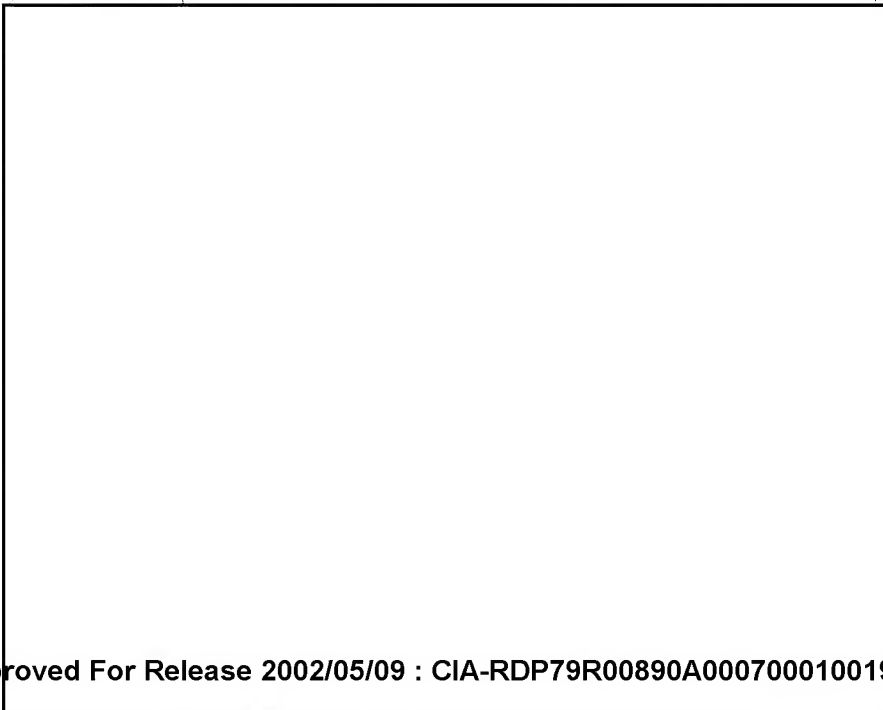
II.



25X1

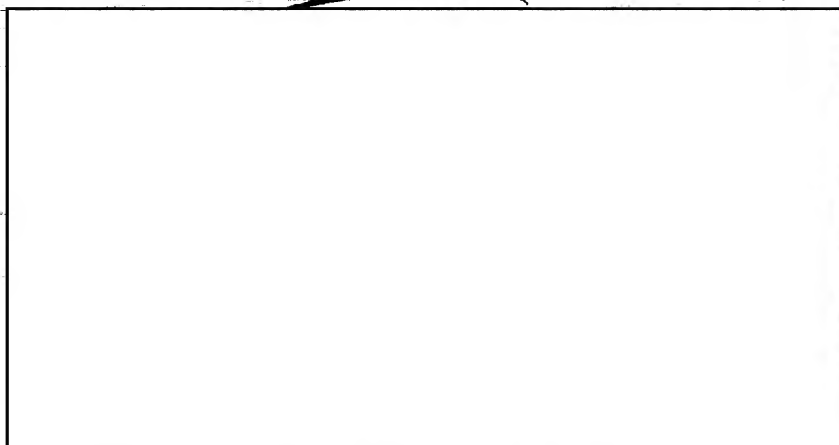
B. Formation of a neutral Scandinavian
"federation" would be one method to
entice Norway (and Denmark) to leave
NATO.

III.



25X1

25X1



1. In 1949, Swedes promoted a "Scandinavian Defense Alliance" of Sweden, Norway, and Denmark, in effort to keep Norway, Denmark out of NATO.